



Keeping in Touch

5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Ste. 304, Los Angeles, CA 90020-9990 (213) 464-5100

OCTOBER

TOP 20 TITHES

Received by Oct. 15th 1984
(In Amount Given)

MCC Dallas - TX	\$2153.51
MCC of the Resurrection - Houston, TX	1774.88
MCC in the Valley - N. Hollywood, CA	993.52
Church of the Holy Spirit MCC - Ft. Ldl., FL	990.16
MCC of Greater St. Louis - MO	768.38
MCC Seattle - WA	721.19
MCC New York - NY	700.10
Christ Chapel MCC - Santa Ana, CA	667.71
MCC of Greater Kansas City - MO	631.05
MCC Portland - OR	609.43
MCC Los Angeles - CA	605.89
Agape MCC of Ft. Worth - TX	597.95
MCC San Antonio - TX	498.26
All God's Children MCC - Minneapolis, MN	450.01
MCC Washington - DC	440.89
Casa de Cristo MCC - Phoenix, AZ	423.27
MCC Ocean of Life - Costa Mesa, CA	408.37
Christ MCC - Miami, FL	388.30
River City MCC - Sacramento, CA	386.89
Christ the Kind MCC - Oklahoma City	377.46

OCTOBER

TOP 20 TITHES

Received by Oct. 15th 1984
(Per Capita)

MCC Rockville - MD	\$28.21
MCC Amarillo - TX	20.00
Exodus MCC of Abilene - TX	16.00
MCC Ft. Walton Beach - FL	14.20
Trinity MCC - NY	13.70
MCC of the Rio Grande - Brownsville, TX	13.63
Mcc Richmond - VA	12.71
MCC San Jose - CA	12.12
Christ the Liberator - NJ	11.95
MCC in the Valley - N. Hollywood, CA	11.18
Diablo Valley MCC - Concord, CA	11.00
MCC Seattle - WA	10.83
All God's Children MCC - Minneapolis, MN	10.71
Family of God MCC - Morgantown, WV	10.54
Christ MCC - Miami, FL	10.44
MCC Providence - RI	10.36
Johnson Country MCC - Olathe, KS	10.32
Covenant MCC - Birmingham, AL	10.08
Calvary MCC - Redwood City, CA	9.99
MCC of Dallas - TX	9.96
MCC San Antonio - TX	9.96

* * * PRAISES * * *

-Rev. Joseph Gilbert and Rev. Jennie Boyd Bull attended the National Council of Churches meeting on Faith and Order. Jennie led a Bible study on Psalm: 137 in her contextual theology group. They also had a chance to share with a World Council of Churches Faith and Order member.

-Rev. Michael England reports that the Lesbian and Gay Interfaith Alliance meeting in San Francisco was also successful, a delightful experience though "hard work!", he said. A more full report of the meeting will be reported in JOURNEY magazine.

-Rev. Jim Dykes reports from Sydney, Australia. They expect the Labor Party to win a landslide election in December, which means Gays and Lesbians will have unprecedented support. They are expecting to pass a bill on "de facto" immigration that will entitle spouses of Gay/Lesbian immigrants to be treated the same as heterosexual spouses.

-The Mid-Atlantic District reports that they had their largest Conference ever, with over 140 people registered for the Conference, held in Philadelphia. Two new Study Groups were approved--one in Wilmington, Delaware and one in Washington D.C.

-Rev. Jose Mojica is pleased to announce the starting of Iglesia de la Comunidad Metropolitana Maranatha (I.C.M.M) in Long Beach, California on October 14, 1984. The starting of I.C.M. Tijuana on November 4, 1984, (Mr. Felix Escamilla, from ICM Mexico City has moved to Tijuana to start the group, Rev. Mojica and Rev. Bjorn Marcussen have made a preliminary visit this past week!)

-Attention: Persons interested in performing with a Spanish Choir at General Conference in Sacramento, California...Please contact Mr. John Carraza at 2217 Longwood, Dallas, TX 75228, (214) 324-3274--Thanks!

-Rev. Leigh Neighbors, Pastor of Auckland, New Zealand, writes: "We in Auckland are getting ready for the visit of Rev. Elder Jean White during the last week of November-first of December. I guess the greatest news in New Zealand is the fact that the new government is more sympathetic towards Gays/Lesbians. Now for the first time, in the last five years, we

* * * PRAISES * * *

have a chance to get MCC registered. It is hoped by the time Rev. Jean White visits us we will be a recognized church in New Zealand and maybe we could then apply for membership to the New Zealand Council of Churches." Leigh also reports, "there is now an interested group in Levin, (60 miles from Wellington) it is planned to visit with them before Jean White arrives." Leigh has also had back trouble and needs our prayer support. Remember our church in New Zealand in your prayers!

-Johnson County MCC in Olathe, Kansas dedicated their new Chapel on their fourth anniversary, October 7, 1984.

ECUMENICAL RELATIONS SURVEY

Another survey? YES! This time it is being distributed to congregations concerning Ecumenical Relations. In order for us to continue our work with National or International Ecumenical Agencies, we need to know what is really happening on the local level in ecumenical relations in UFMCC. The last time we did a study was in 1976! Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

ELDER MEETING MINUTES

The Minutes from the July Board of Elders meeting are just now being completed, printed and mailed. We hope to have the minutes from our November meeting to you before Christmas.

HOLY UNION RESOURCES WANTED

An issue of SOTER in the near future will feature resources for Holy Union: pre-union counseling, requirements, planning and leading the service, and the content of the service itself. Please send any suggestions and resources you have to Jeffrey Pulling, Editor of SOTER, Box 820, West Hartford, CT 06107.

CLERGY CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

A packet about the January 1985 UFMCC Clergy Conference (Orlando, Florida), has been sent to all UFMCC clergy. Registrations are due by the end of December. Please direct all registrations and questions to the Clergy Coordinator, Rev. Jeffrey Pulling, Box 820, West Hartford, CT 06107, (203) 521-6411.

The guest resource persons for this conference will be Bottorff and Rusty Moe, Options of Indianapolis. The preachers for the worship services will be Rev. Judy Dahl and Rev. Ron Bergeron. Rev. Jeffrey Pulling will lead a special sacramental service (renewal of baptismal vows and Holy Communion).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks to the Northwest District, who through the organizing efforts of Rev. Betty Pedersen, completed the translation of the UFMCC By-Laws into Spanish. They are now being proofread and will be printed in the near future.

Rev. Delores Berry is recuperating from surgery. Cards may be sent c/o MCC Portland, 1644 N.E. 24th Street, Portland, OR 97232.

Also, our Love and Caring goes out to Chris Oscar, Worship Coordinator of Greensboro, N.C., whose mother died recently.

Rev. Phil Slusser, pastor of MCC Corpus Christi, is recuperating from a mild stroke...he and his church are praising God for his speedy recovery.

Order your 1985 UFMCC CALENDAR NOW! See the enclosed ad...it will make a great Christmas gift for Board and Staff members, or to have available for sale at your church bookstore! What is the perfect gift for that someone who has everything?...but of course, a 1985 UFMCC Calendar! The total cost, including Postage and Handling, is \$6.95 per copy.

Our new edition of "Homosexuality--What the Bible Does and Does Not Say" is available through Church Services at UFMCC. Prices are as follows:

COPIES		Price
Single	-	.25
25	-	\$5.50
50	-	11.00
100	-	18.00
500	-	70.00

Jim Voltz, the General Conference Coordinator, is pleased to announce that all General Conference registration and housing materials will be mailed from the Fellowship in early December. Plans are moving along well for General Conference...several special social events, exciting speeches and a program on AIDS. An unparalleled quality of music and worship will be among some of the special features of this General Conference, which Rev. Elder Freda Smith calls "a big family reunion." The Sacramento Convention Center is a beautiful air conditioned, comfortable facility that is large enough to host, what is expected to be, the largest General Conference in our history!

ATTENTION - ATTENTION

All district representatives to the Fellowship Finance Committee--both clergy and lay--please send your address to the chair of the Finance Committee,

Mr. Tom Reveley
539 W. 17th Street
Houston, TX 77008